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# JOURNAL

OF THE

## STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

JANUARY, 1839.

*A Review of the Trade of France in the year 1837, compared with the preceding year and with the decennial period from 1827 to 1836.*  
From the Official Report, November, 1838.

THE total commerce of France, with its colonies and foreign countries, during the year 1837, amounted to the sum of 1566 millions of francs (62,640,000*l.*), including imports and exports. Compared with the total amount in 1836 (1867 millions), it exhibits a decrease of 301 millions (12,040,000*l.*), equal to 16 per cent.; but it exceeds the decennial average, from 1827 to 1836, by 200 millions, or 15 per cent.

This difference is to be found principally in the exports, at least as far as the comparison between the years 1836 and 1837 is concerned. On the other hand, the increase upon the decennial period is more particularly to be attributed to the imports. It is also to be remarked that the variations have generally been greater in the "general commerce"\* than in the "special commerce," the latter of which shews a decrease of only 9 per cent. in comparison with 1836.

TABLE I.—*Imports and Exports; the Value stated in Thousands of Pounds Sterling.*

		1837	1836	Average of 1827-36	Per-Centage Pro- portion of 1837 to 1836   1827-36	
		£ 1000	£ 1000	£ 1000		
IMPORTS	{ General Commerce .	32,320	36,240	26,720	-11	+21
	{ Special Commerce .	22,760	22,560	19,200	+1	+19
EXPORTS	{ General Commerce .	30,320	38,440	27,920	-21	+9
	{ Special Commerce .	20,560	25,160	20,840	-18	-1
IMPORTS & EXPORTS	{ General Commerce .	62,640	74,680	54,640	-16	+15
	{ Special Commerce .	43,320	47,720	40,040	-9	+8

With respect to the mode in which the merchandize is transported, the total commerce during 1837 is distributed between the two great divisions of commerce by land and commerce by sea, in the proportion of 32 to 68. These two distinct branches bore to one another in 1836

\* *General Commerce* is the term applied in the French official tables to Importations, as regards the trade inwards, and to Exportations of foreign and French merchandize, as regards the trade outwards. *Special Commerce* is limited to merchandize entered for home consumption, inwards, and to exportations of French merchandize, outwards.

the proportion of 31 to 69, and on the decennial average the proportion of 30 to 70. Both comparisons exhibit a larger proportionate share of commerce by land than of commerce by sea during the year 1837. Considered separately, the commerce by land has fallen off 12 per cent. in comparison with 1836, but has exceeded the decennial average by 21 per cent. It appears, upon an examination of the variations in the commerce by sea, that the comparison with 1836 shews a greater decrease in the trade carried on in foreign vessels than in that carried on in French vessels, being 8 per cent. in the former and 25 per cent. in the latter branch. This difference is particularly remarkable in the value of exports; it amounted to 39 per cent. for exports under a foreign flag, and only to 9 per cent. for those under a French flag. In comparison with the decennial period, the commerce by sea exhibits, in 1837, an increase in almost all its branches. The increase in the value of imports by foreign vessels is 38 per cent., while those by French vessels have increased only 10 per cent.

The following table shews the proportions in which French and foreign vessels have respectively shared in the commerce during the same periods.

TABLE II.—*Navigation Inwards and Outwards united.*

	Per-Centage Proportion			1837 compared with	
	In 1837	In 1836	In 1827-36	1836	1827-36
French vessels	40•	38•	39•	+ 6 p. cent.	+ 35 p. cent.
Foreign ditto .	60•	62•	61•	+ 2 „	+ 36 „

It results from the above statement, from which vessels in ballast are excluded, that although, as has been shewn, the value of the commerce by sea was less in 1837 than in 1836, the navigation, on the other hand, exhibits an increase. It appears also, on a comparison of the two years, that the increase has been relatively greater upon French than upon foreign vessels. A comparison of 1837 with the decennial average shews a difference, in favour of that year, of about 35 per cent., both upon French and foreign tonnage.

From an examination of the commerce carried on in French vessels with the colonies, the deep fisheries, and with foreign countries, the following facts are elicited :—

1. As regards the French colonies, the value of imports was 11 per cent. less than in 1836, and the same amount less than the decennial average.

2. The value of exports to the colonies, on the other hand, was in both cases in favour of 1837, the excess over 1836 being 6 per cent., and over the decennial average 14 per cent.

3. The imports of the productions of the deep fisheries, in 1837, whether compared with 1836 or with the decennial average, have increased to the extent of 71 per cent.

4. Lastly, if the united imports and exports during 1837, in the trade carried on under the French flag with foreign countries, present a

diminution of 11 per cent. when compared with 1836, they exhibit a corresponding increase when compared with the decennial average.

The next tables in the Report refer to the trade with each country, and suggest the following remarks :—

First, with respect to *Imports*, the value of merchandize imported from the United States amounted in 1837 to 4,720,000*l.*, and the value entered for home consumption to 3,480,000*l.*, shewing an excess of 6 and 7 per cent. respectively, when compared with 1836, and of 40 and 36 per cent., when compared with the decennial average.

The importations from Great Britain and the Sardinian States have also increased considerably. The value of merchandize from the former kingdom entered for consumption exceeded the amount in 1836 by 37 per cent., and the decennial average by 118 per cent. Compared with the preceding year, the importations from Belgium have varied slightly, but the increase upon the decennial average amounts to more than a fifth. The trade with Holland has greatly increased as regards both the quantities entered for consumption and those destined for re-exportation and transit. Among the countries the imports from which, in 1837, exhibit a diminution when compared with 1836, both with respect to the general and the special commerce, are included Switzerland, Germany, the Hanse Towns, Prussia, Austria, the Barbary States, the two Sicilies, Egypt, and Tuscany.

Secondly, with regard to *Exports*, the trade with the United States fell off greatly in 1837 compared with 1836. The total exports of French and foreign merchandize to that country amounted to 3,960,000*l.*, of which only 2,320,000*l.* consisted of French productions. The decrease, as compared with 1836, was 64 per cent. of French merchandize alone, and 58 per cent. inclusive of foreign merchandize. Compared with the decennial average, a decrease has also taken place, but not to so great an extent, being 38 and 18 per cent. respectively.

The exports to England, both of French and foreign merchandize, have fallen off in comparison with either period. The contrary, however, is the case in the trade with Belgium, the Sardinian States, Switzerland, and Holland. With respect to other foreign countries, the exports of French merchandize had increased in 1837, compared with 1836, in the trade with all the French colonies except Guadaloupe; with Greece, Algiers, the Mauritius, the Coast of Africa, Dutch East Indies, Danish Possessions in America, Peru, and Bolivia; and had decreased, on the other hand, in the trade with Spain, Turkey, the British East Indies, Prussia, Brazil, two Sicilies, Austria, Egypt, Haiti, Chili, Barbary States, and Portugal.

*Imports and Exports united.*—In the total commerce, including imports and exports, the United States continues to hold the first place as regards both the general and special commerce, although the amount in 1837 has greatly fallen short of that during the preceding year. Great Britain, which comes next in order, has taken the second place in the special commerce, which was occupied by Belgium in 1836. Its trade exhibits in this branch an increase of 10 per cent. upon 1836, and of 28 per cent. upon the decennial average; and it is to be remarked that this country has been the principal market for French exports in the year 1837. The Sardinian States and Belgium figure next in the

tables, but in a different order; the former country, which ranks third in the general commerce, occupies the fourth place in the special commerce, and Belgium *vice versa*. The latter country exhibits but a slight variation in comparison with 1836. The Sardinian States, on the contrary, present a large increase, amounting to 23 per cent. in the general commerce and 10 per cent in the special commerce.

The tables in the French Report which exhibit the above facts do not admit of being transcribed at length, but the following abstracts will shew the points most worthy of observation.

TABLE III.—*Shewing in their respective order the Twelve Countries which carried on the greatest Amount of Trade with France in the Year 1837.*

Countries.	General Commerce.			Special Commerce.		
	Total.	Imports.	Exports of French and Foreign Merchandize.	Total.	Entries for Home Consumption.	Exports of French Merchandize.
United States . .	1	1	1	1	1	2
Great Britain . .	2	4	2	2	4	1
Sardinian States .	3	3	5	4	3	6
Belgium . . . .	4	2	6	3	2	4
Switzerland . . .	5	5	3	7	9	5
Spain . . . . .	6	7	4	5	5	3
Germany . . . .	7	6	7	6	7	7
Russia . . . . .	8	9	14	10	10	15
Guadaloupe . . .	9	13	10	8	8	8
Brazil . . . . .	10	20	8	18	21	12
Turkey . . . . .	11	10	18	17	13	21
Martinico . . . .	12	16	13	9	15	9

TABLE IV.—*Shewing the Amount of Imports and Exports to and from the Twelve Countries carrying on the greatest Amount of Trade with France in 1837, stated in Thousands of Pounds Sterling.*

Countries.	General Commerce.		Special Commerce.	
	Imports.	Exports of French and Foreign Merchandize.	Entries for Home Consumption.	Exports of French Merchandize.
	£1000.	£1000.	£1000.	£1000.
United States . . . . .	4,720	3,960	3,480	2,320
Great Britain . . . . .	3,040	3,800	1,920	2,520
Sardinian States . . . . .	3,400	2,240	2,600	1,320
Belgium . . . . .	3,440	1,880	2,880	1,520
Switzerland . . . . .	2,200	3,080	720	1,360
Spain . . . . .	1,440	2,800	1,080	1,800
Germany . . . . .	1,760	1,440	840	1,280
Russia . . . . .	920	560	640	360
Guadaloupe . . . . .	680	720	760	720
Brazil . . . . .	440	880	240	520
Turkey . . . . .	840	440	520	240
Martinico . . . . .	560	680	480	680

On comparing the imports of 1837 with those of 1836, separated in the three classes into which they are usually divided, viz., raw materials of manufactures, articles for use or consumption unmanufactured, and manufactured, it will be seen that the decrease has occurred as well among the first as among the two latter branches of trade; but that, with respect to merchandize destined for consumption, there has been no decrease, except among unmanufactured articles for use or consumption, which have fallen off 1 per cent. It is in the latter branch alone that a diminution has occurred in the comparison with the decennial period, amounting to 13 per cent.; in the other branches there has been a large increase.

TABLE V.—Imports classed according to their nature, stated in Thousands of Pounds Sterling.

		1837	1836	1827-36	1837 Compared with	
					1836	1827-36
<b>GENERAL COMMERCE.</b>						
Raw Materials of Manufactures		£1000.	£1000.	£1000.		
Articles fit for		20,120	21,240	16,080	— 6	+25
Use or Con-	Unmanufactured	5,920	7,120	6,560	—20	—13
sumption,	Manufactured .	6,280	7,880	4,040	—17	+61
Total . . . .		32,320	36,240	26,680	—11	+21
<b>SPECIAL COMMERCE.</b>						
Raw Materials of Manufactures		16,040	15,840	12,640	+ 2	+22
Articles fit for						
Use or Con-	Unmanufactured	4,600	4,640	5,120	— 1	—13
sumption,	Manufactured .	2,120	2,080	1,440	+ 1	+56
Total . . . .		22,760	22,560	19,200	— 1	+18

If, upon analysing these three great divisions, as has been done in the French tables, the several articles be examined with the view of discovering those which have experienced the greatest variation in 1837, it will be found that, excluding such articles as from their nature are only of secondary importance, the greatest fluctuation has occurred in those comprised in the following table.—*See Table VI. p. 518.*

Upon comparing the exports of 1837 with those of 1836, divided into the two main classes of raw produce and manufactures, it appears that the decrease which occurred in the former year was relatively greater in articles of raw produce than in manufactures. The export of the former fell off 21 per cent., as well in the general as in the special commerce. The decrease in the latter was 18 per cent. upon the general, and 11 per cent. upon the special commerce. Compared with the decennial average, the results are generally in favour of 1837; the sole exception being the exports of manufactures, which have fallen off 3 per cent.—See Table VII. p. 518.

TABLE VI.—Principal Articles of Import in which the greatest Fluctuation occurred in 1837.

General Commerce (Imports.)		Per-Centage Difference of 1837, compared with	
		1836	1827-36
Increase in 1837 . . .	Linen thread . . .	24	84
	Ditto cloths . . .	..	16
	Woollen cloths . . .	44	89
	Cotton, raw . . .	..	36
	Sugar, foreign . . .	2	13
	Coals . . .	17	77
	Tallow . . .	207	139
	Tin . . .	58	46
Decrease in 1837 . . .	Tobacco, raw . . .	22	63
	Sugar, French colonial . . .	16	15
	Silk goods . . .	50	..
	Wool, sheep's . . .	39	..
	Corn . . .	51	47
	Cattle . . .	15	27
	Lead . . .	42	15
	Potash . . .	25	16
Special Commerce (Entries for Consumption.)			
Increase in 1837 . . .	Silk, raw and thrown . . .	21	25
	Coals . . .	14	67
	Linen thread . . .	22	62
	Tobacco, raw . . .	96	132
	Coffee . . .	7	16
	Horses . . .	19	52
	Corn . . .	32	..
	Silk goods . . .	38	82
	Tallow . . .	144	144
	Tin . . .	43	48
Decrease in 1837 . . .	Cocoa . . .	30	86
	Cattle . . .	14	27
	Potash . . .	11	17
	Lead . . .	23	12
	Corn . . .	..	75
	Tea . . .	33	14

TABLE VII.—Exports classed according to their nature, stated in Thousands of Pounds Sterling.

	1837	1836	1827-36	1837 Compared with	
				1836	1827-36
<b>GENERAL COMMERCE.</b>					
Raw Produce . . . . .	£1000.	£1000.	£1000.		
Raw Produce . . . . .	10,680	12,960	10,160	-18	+ 5
Manufactures . . . . .	19,640	25,480	17,760	-21	+11
Total . . . . .	30,320	38,440	27,920	-21	+ 9
<b>SPECIAL COMMERCE.</b>					
Raw Produce . . . . .	6,120	6,880	5,920	-11	+ 3
Manufactures . . . . .	14,440	18,280	14,920	-21	- 3
Total . . . . .	20,560	25,160	20,840	-18	- 1

The following table exhibits the variations of the principal exports in 1837, in a similar manner to that of Imports, marked No. VI.

TABLE VIII.—*Principal Articles of Export in which the greatest fluctuation occurred in 1837.*

General Commerce (French and Foreign Merchandize).		Per-Centage Difference of 1837 compared with	
		1836	1827-36
Increase in 1837	Cotton cloths . . .	..	42
	Woollen ditto . . .	..	47
	Clocks and watches . . .	..	56
	Articles of fashion (modes) . . .	..	72
	Machinery . . . . .	44	144
Decrease in 1837	Silk goods . . . . .	41	16
	Wine . . . . .	15	7
	Linen cloths . . . . .	21	12
	Silk, raw and thrown . . .	33	17
	Parisian manufactures . . .	45	11
	Sugar, refined . . . . .	24	6
Special Commerce (French Merchandize).			
Increase in 1837	Cotton cloths . . . . .	..	21
	Woollen ditto . . . . .	..	28
	Articles of fashion (modes) . . .	..	48
	Plated wares . . . . .	5	34
	Machinery . . . . .	38	120
Decrease in 1837	Silk goods . . . . .	36	26
	Wine . . . . .	15	7
	Linen cloths . . . . .	31	35
	Brandy . . . . .	8	23
	Skins, dressed . . . . .	32	7
	Parisian manufactures . . .	45	12
	Sugar, refined . . . . .	44	38

The next tables in the official report relate to the transit trade, shewing, first, the several classes of merchandize, and, secondly, the countries with which the trade was carried on. The first table is divided into two parts, one exhibiting the value, and the other the weight of the merchandize. The average period which serves for the point of comparison consists, in the table of goods, of the five years anterior to 1837, and in the table of countries, of the four years preceding the same date.

With reference to the value of the merchandize, the transit trade amounted in 1837 to 5,840,000*l*. Compared with 1836, it exhibits a decrease of 29 per cent. ; but, compared with the quinquennial average, an increase of 7 per cent. The principal articles in which an increase has occurred are, refined sugar, iron, and steel ; those in which the trade has decreased are, sheep's wool, silk goods, indigo, and clock-work.

With respect to the weight of the merchandize, amounting in 1837 to 302,294 metrical quintals,\* the trade in 1837 shews a decrease of 11 per cent. below that of 1836, and an increase of 33 per cent. above that of the quinquennial period. Comparing the several articles in 1837 with those in 1836, there appears an increase of 130 per cent. in the trade of refined sugar, and a decrease of 53 per cent. in that of silk goods ; 47 per cent. in sheep's wool, 45 per cent. in indigo, 39 per cent. in raw and thrown silk, and 28 per cent. in iron and steel. Comparing the same with the average of five years, there appears an increase of 293 per cent. upon refined sugar, 40 per cent. upon cotton, 36 per cent.

\* Equal to 29,689 tons ; one ton = 10½ metrical quintals.



upon clock-work, and 29 per cent. upon raw and clayed sugars; and a decrease of 58 per cent. upon sheep's wool, 25 per cent. upon indigo, and 14 per cent. upon silk goods.

The principal variations exhibited by the transit trade of 1837, in comparison with 1836, considered with reference to the several countries interested in it, are a decrease of 54 per cent. in the trade with the Sardinian States, of 48 per cent. in that with Prussia, and of 35 per cent. in that with Switzerland; while, in comparison with the average of four years, there was an increase of 26 per cent. in the trade with Switzerland, and of 47 per cent. in that with the Sardinian States.

As regards the destination of the merchandize in the transit trade, the principal variations consist of an increase in the commerce with Belgium, and a decrease in that with the United States and Great Britain. With respect to the first of these countries the increase was 11 per cent. compared with 1836, and 35 per cent. compared with the quadrennial average. The decrease in the trade with the United States was 54 per cent. in the first period, and 22 per cent. in the second; and the decrease in the trade with Great Britain was 39 per cent. compared with 1836, and 20 per cent. compared with the average of the four years.

TABLE IX.—*Transit Table, shewing the nature of the Articles, the value stated in Thousands of Pounds Sterling.*

	1837		Quantities in 1837 compared with		Value in 1837 compared with	
	Quantities.	Value.	1836	1833-37	1836	1833-37
	Metrical Quintals.	£1000.				
Cotton, raw . . . . .	61,898	496	-10	+40	-53	-14
Refined sugar . . . . .	40,499	160	+130	+293	-9	+49
Iron and steel . . . . .	37,180	68	-28	+27	-39	-19
Coffee . . . . .	36,665	148	+4	+20	+4	+27
Sugar, raw and clayed . . . . .	15,878	68	-7	+29	-9	+41
Cotton cloths . . . . .	8,052	992	-22	+28	-22	+10
Silk, raw and thrown . . . . .	6,849	912	-39	-13	+90	+233
Linen cloths . . . . .	5,763	364	-15	+13	-12	+3
Woollen cloths . . . . .	4,992	584	+9	+29	-20	+55
Clock-work . . . . .	2,373	112	+1	+36	-45	-26
Silk goods . . . . .	2,331	1,064	-53	-14	-6	+31
Sheep's wool . . . . .	1,294	20	-47	-58	+89	+70
Indigo . . . . .	837	68	-45	-25	-7	-13
Cochineal . . . . .	426	52	-12	-14	-50	-58
Other articles . . . . .	77,257	732	-27	+13	-29	-2
Total . . . . .	302,294	5,840	-11	+33	-29	+7

The trade of the several warehousing ports is shewn in Table XI. p. 521, exhibiting the weight and value of the merchandize in bond.

From this it will be seen that the total value of goods warehoused in all the ports of the kingdom amounted to 19,172,000*l.* in the year 1837. Between this sum and 19,988,000*l.*, which was the value of warehoused goods in 1836, there exists only the trifling difference of

4 per cent. Compared with the triennial average from 1834 to 1836, for which alone the data are complete, there is scarcely any difference, the amount in the latter period being 19,000,000*l*.

The ports of Calais, Paris (Swan Island), Strasburg, Toulouse, Metz, Bayonne, Lyons, and Orleans, are those in which the comparison, both with 1836 and 1834-36, exhibits the greatest variations in the amount of bonded goods.

With respect to the weight of the merchandize, the trade in 1837 exhibits but little difference compared with 1836.

TABLE X.—*Transit Trade, shewing the Trade with the principal Countries, the Value stated in Thousands of Pounds Sterling.*

Countries from which Imported.	Value in 1837	1837 compared with		Countries to which Exported.	Value in 1837	1837 compared with	
		1836	1833-6			1836	1833-6
	£1000.				£1000.		
Switzerland . .	1656	-35	+26	Switzerland . .	1720	-7	+17
Great Britain . .	836	-5	+8	United States . .	1172	-54	-22
Sardinian States	700	-54	-47	Great Britain . .	976	-39	-20
Germany . . .	604	+7	+5	Spain . . .	528	-11	+11
Belgium . . .	540	-8	-15	Sardinian States	292	-15	-15
United States . .	468	-12	+11	Belgium . . .	244	+11	+35
Prussia . . .	460	-48	+13	Brazil . . .	212	-18	+8
Other Countries	640	+2	+26	Other Countries	760	-2	+32
Total . .	5904	-28	-1	Total . .	5904	-28	-1

TABLE XI.—*Weight and Value of Merchandize bonded in the principal warehousing Ports of France during the Year 1837, the Value stated in Thousands of Pounds Sterling.*

	1837		Quantities in 1837 compared with		Value in 1837 compared with	
	Quantities.	Value.	1836	1834-36	1836	1834-36
	Metrical Quintals.	£1000.				
Marseilles . .	2,359,526	6,172	-7	+13	-2	+9
Havre . . .	1,252,581	5,804	-11	-2	-3	+2
Bordeaux . . .	475,066	2,164	+6	+22	-12	-3
Paris (Marais) . .	208,384	852	-5	+20	+28	-5
Rouen . . .	193,890	404	-19	+3	-20	..
Dunkirk . . .	175,081	224	+34	+13	-6	-2
Paris (Swan Island)	88,050	136	-26	-29	-17	-8
Nantes . . .	86,341	608	-61	-61	-31	-14
Bayonne . . .	54,050	288	+4	+29	-7	+4
Calais . . .	39,343	48	+75	+77	-51	-56
Lyons . . .	23,707	1,780	-20	-11	+47	+57
Toulouse . . .	9,013	72	-26	-26	-18	-38
Strasburg . . .	8,463	88	-10	-1	-57	-76
Orleans . . .	6,474	20	+62	+66	-33	-11
Metz . . .	4,002	32	-14	+15	+25	+25
Other Ports . .	863,788	480	+85	+186	+20	+45
Total . .	5,847,789*	19,172	-1	+16	-4	..

\* Equal to 574,336 tons.

But this weight, which amounted to 5,847,789 metrical quintals, exceeded the average of 1834-36 by 16 per cent. The principal variations were at Calais, Orleans, and Dunkirk, at which an increase occurred; and at Nantes, Paris (Swan Island), and Toulouse, at which there was a decrease.

The ports of Marseilles and Havre have maintained their relative importance. These two ports have received more than two-thirds of the whole of the merchandize bonded in the kingdom during the year 1837, the former to the extent of 40 per cent., and the latter to that of 21 per cent. R.

*An Account of the Trade of the Port of Dundee, during the three years ended 31st May, 1838.* By JOHN STURROCK, Esq., Banker, and Convener of the Finance Committee of the Harbour Trustees, Dundee. Communicated by JOSEPH HUME, Esq., M.P.\*

THE commercial crisis, which commenced in October, 1836, and which extended over Great Britain, Ireland, and the Continents of Europe and America, was severely felt in Dundee. Its injurious effects were aggravated by the circumstance, that during the year from 1st June, 1836, to 31st May, 1837, an excessive importation of flax and flax codilla, the raw materials from which the greater part of our exports is manufactured, took place. The flax imported in that year was 22,461 tons, while the average of the four preceding years ended 31st May, 1836, was 15,726 tons, shewing an excess of 6,735 tons. In the same manner, the importation of flax codilla being 8,279 tons, exceeded by 3,405 tons the average of the four preceding years, which was 4,874 tons. The consequence was—a great part being held by persons who were dependent upon credit—that the prices fell in a double ratio; first, from the check given to credit; and secondly, from the importations being greater than the trade of the place required. Hence D. C. flax—of which a greater quantity is consumed than any other—which in June, 1836, was worth 42*l.* 15*s.*, had fallen to 33*l.* in July, 1837; and flax codilla fell, during the same period, from 21*l.* 15*s.*, to 17*l.* per ton. Therefore, although the average quantity of flax imported during the three years ended 31st May, 1838, only exceeds the average of the four years ended 31st May, 1836, by 1,845 tons, the former being 17,571, the latter 15,726; and the average of the flax codilla, for the same period, only exceeds by 944 tons, the average for the three years being 5,818, and of the four years 4,874 tons; yet we see the injurious results arising from the excessive importations from the 1st June, 1836, to 31st May, 1837, amounting to 30,740 tons—the price of the whole being affected according as the excess bears a greater or less ratio to the actual quantities required for consumption.

The fluctuation in the quantities of English and Scotch coals imported is worthy of remark. The importation of the former, during the last

\*The above Report suggests the advantage of similar statements for other commercial and manufacturing towns. A comparison of such documents would tend to remove much of the doubt and obscurity under which commercial operations are too often carried on. It would be impossible to prepare a form for general application; but every person may readily select the facts which best display the condition and prospects of the trade of his own town. If any such reports already exist, or may in future be prepared, the Editor will feel obliged for information thereof, or for a copy of the document,—Ed.